

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twelfth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Twelfth Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (302) reside in the Twelfth Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (57) of Twelfth Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 68.5% of admissions from the Twelfth Middlesex Representative District were male and 31.4% were female.
- Over 52.3% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 85.1% of admissions were white non-Latino, 4.3% were black non-Latino, 5.3% were Latino, and 0.9% were Asian and 4.3% were other racial categories.
- 66.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 15.8% were married, and 13.9% reported not to be married now.
- 19.5% of admissions had less than high school education, 42% completed high school, and 38.4% had more than high school education.
- 41.7% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 9.9% of those admitted were homeless.
- 14.2% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twelfth Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twelfth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	282	223	94	93	50	74	62
FY '96	315	262	107	92	44	81	65
FY '97	345	291	114	98	40	63	42
FY '98	317	261	93	70	30	65	57
FY '99	313	256	77	66	30	89	71
FY '00	346	290	104	73	35	105	87
FY '01	302	241	86	58	33	73	59

- Since peaking in FY 2000, residents of Twelfth Middlesex Representative District reported a decrease across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use remained steady, while alcohol use increased by 8%, and, marijuana, cocaine and crack use decreased by 8%, 37% and 34%, respectively.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twelfth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	57.2%	22.1%	10.9%	4.6%	1.3%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While heroin and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana and cocaine was higher within your District.